

30 June 1966

Approved For Release 2000/05/05 : CIA-RDP75-00001R000100130002-1
FOIA b3b**RICHARD HELMS, DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE**

(Mr. RIVERS of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute, to revise and extend his remarks, and to include certain press articles.)

Mr. RIVERS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, the Senate confirmed the nomination of Mr. Richard Helms to succeed Adm. William F. Raborn as Director of Central Intelligence. At his confirmation hearings, the Senate Committee on Armed Services welcomed Mr. Helms' appointment enthusiastically and unanimously approved his nomination. I, too, wish to welcome Mr. Helms to this position. I look forward to a close association with him in my capacity as chairman of the House Armed Services CIA Subcommittee.

During the past 14 months, my close association with Admiral Raborn has been one of the most pleasant aspects of my duties as chairman of the Armed Services Committee. I, and a number of my colleagues, have already paid tribute to the admiral's record of distinguished service as a career naval officer and more recently as Director of Central Intelligence. He responded to a call from the President and performed his job splendidly. We all extend him every good wish for the future.

Mr. Speaker, a number of distinguished Americans have held this position which is so important to the security of our country. I think it is entirely fitting now that a man who has gained distinction through the professionalism acquired through a career in intelligence work including the holding of several senior positions within the Agency should now be appointed the head of that Agency. Mr. Helms' professional competence was recognized 14 months ago when he was named by President Johnson as Deputy Director of Central Intelligence.

It has been recognized again in his elevation to the top position in the CIA. I am sure that it is encouraging to those who have worked with Mr. Helms over the years and who are perhaps his strongest advocates to see him named to this position. Mr. Helms' intelligence career began in 1943 when he first served with the Office of Strategic Services. He has served continuously in its successor organizations.

I have been extremely impressed with Mr. Helms in his numerous appearances before our CIA Subcommittee. I am sure it is a comforting thought to Admiral Raborn, as he leaves his position, to know that the job is indeed in good hands. The press has not always been

kind to the CIA but I have been most interested in the almost universally favorable response which Mr. Helms' appointment has received. I wish to insert in the Record at this point a selection of these articles.

I do not agree with those who are critical of Admiral Raborn's tenure as Director; but I do agree with the universal acclaim over Mr. Helms' appointment.

The articles follow:

[From the Pittsburgh Press June 20, 1966]

EXCELLENT CHOICE

President Johnson chose well in elevating the Government's top career intelligence officer, Richard M. Helms, to directorship of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

Dick Helms is an exceptionally able public servant. The words customarily used to describe him—"brilliant," "dedicated," and "unbiased"—are accurate.

Going from the Navy into the Office of Strategic Services (the CIA's predecessor) in 1943, Mr. Helms has spent the years since continuously in Government intelligence, rising through the ranks and until only little more than a year ago he was named deputy director of the CIA under the now retiring Admiral William F. Raborn.

Thus, he knows inside-out the faults, strengths, plans and machinery of this most complicated, controversial but all-essential Government agency. His record commends and fits him to take over the reins.

He knows that one of the greatest needs of the CIA today is a better public image—not that it is nearly as bad as some claim. But it needs to be better, for it is an agency essential to the welfare of our country.

Many in the Scripps-Howard newspaper organization have known Dick Helms since the pre-War II days when he was director of national advertising for The Indianapolis Times, a sister newspaper.

Our wager is he can turn in the performance required.

[From the Washington Post, Tuesday, June 20, 1966]

CIA CHANGING OF GUARD—AGENCY BEING VINDICATED BY SENATE

(By William S. White)

The changing of the top guard at the Central Intelligence Agency is proceeding smoothly notwithstanding CIA's inbuilt capacity to evoke more than its share of a kind of querulous suspicion and criticism.

Richard Helms, who is to be the Agency's director in succession to his resigned chief, Adm. William F. Raborn, has been given the unanimous approval of the leadership of both parties in the Senate.

Deputy Helms thus becomes Director Helms under a powerful and, practically speaking, an unchallengeable Senate sponsorship. Moreover, it has become clear that the demand of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for a part in congressional supervision of the CIA is going exactly nowhere.

The most realistic estimate is that if and when this proposal is pushed to a showdown on the Senate floor it will do well to attract as much as 20 per cent of the vote.

CIA is already supervised by a select and bipartisan Senate group, headed by Senator Richard Russell of Georgia, which demonstrably holds the confidence of a vast majority of the Senate. So the Russell Committee will continue to be the sole supervising group; and that is that.

All this state of affairs is understandably most pleasing to the CIA, which has long been the top villain in all the bureaucracy to a small minority in Congress. These men simply cannot accept the hard reality that a tight secrecy over clandestine operations is the unavoidable price exacted by the kind of world in which we live.

The whole point is that the Russell CIA Committee has never known a leak of national security information; the Foreign Relations Committee is widely known for just such leaks. Its effort to move in on the CIA is not being rejected by a Senate majority only because of the essential bankruptcy of its argument that CIA meddles in the making of foreign policy, but mainly because some of its members simply cannot keep from talking too much about some things that should not be talked about at all.

[From the Washington Post, Monday, June 27, 1966]

The net of it is that this agency as an institution is in the process of a massive vindication by the Senate. This is bracing news, indeed, to the poor old CIA, which can never speak of its many successes and can never even try to defend its few failures. It is happy news, too, for Admiral Raborn, whose services to this country—from his development of the Polaris missile program to his conduct of the CIA—has been rarely matched.

To be sure, Raborn leaves his post—for a resumed retirement long since promised him by President Johnson—under criticism here and there. Still, he can take comfort in the knowledge that the one man who really ought to know the quality of his work, the President, is genuinely sorry to see him go.

The President has sent to Raborn a private letter of farewell that should convince the open-minded that the Admiral did a good job, indeed. "In your leaving," the President told Raborn, "you take with you not only my gratitude but that of your fellow countrymen who have been served so well by your unique powers of leadership and understanding."

If this isn't a "well done" from the Commander-in-Chief to a faithful old sailor, nobody could write one.

That the President has sent it reflects, to be sure, more than personal appreciation for a man who has done a particularly hard tour of duty. It also reflects his grave concern that all men in the most critical and most criticized arms of government—intelligence, defense, State Department—are of necessity asked to bear burdens of such pressure as to make high careers less and less attractive and sometimes hardly even bearable.

Highly qualified men are hard to find—and keep—even in times far less demanding than these, the days of the running sore of the war in Vietnam.

CIA's NEW CHIEF, A DETERMINED PRO (By Marquis Childs)

Those who occupy the seats of the mighty in this Capital are more often than not showy figures expanding like tropical flowers in the public glow. They measure their success by clocking the time they get on national television.

Just named to fill one of these seats is a man who falls completely outside the pattern. It is doubtful if one American in a thousand could identify Richard M. Helms, who will be director of the Central Intelligence Agency. And, if he has ever appeared on television, it has been by the sheerest inadvertence.

Even more remarkable in this hothouse atmosphere is that this is the way he intends it to be. As a pro in the intelligence business himself, Mr. Helms has every intention of making the agency a professional operation. The dilemma of secrecy for a vastly expanded intelligence operation, serving a democracy in which the very word secrecy inspires the itch to break it down, is his to resolve.

Although it was not known at the time, the White House on a previous occasion seriously considered putting Mr. Helms in the position to which he has now been named. The argument was that, since the CIA is a

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